The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade unions generally.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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PROFITEERS' CRY SHOULD NOT ALARM

New York, Aug. 4.—In a speech in the city last night Frank Morrison, secretary of the A. F. of L., called on trade unionists to stand true to their principles in these war times and not be stampeded because profiteers cry "I. W. W." and "enemies of the government" every time a demand is made for living standards.

"Employers of organized labor cannot scare us," said Secretary Morrison, "and we will not remain silent when they outrage labor's right, as they did at Bisbee, Arizona, where a so-called loyalty league was formed to run down and worry suspected of favoring organization.

"Those outlaws must bear in mind that our country guarantees every individual certain rights which we will not surrender. For what is ignored in violation of these rights or attempts to curry favor with those who are constantly crying treason and traitor and debase conditions while they talk of 'Americanism' and 'patriotism.'"

GOVERNOR CAN FORCE FREE MEN TO LABOR

Washington, Aug. 4.—In response to his request for the release of Arizona men arrested against the Bisbee deportation, Secretary of Labor Wilson writes Frank Morrison, secretary of the A. F. of L., that he took the matter up immediately with the president and the secretary of war.

President Wilson's views on the deportation in Arizona of his fellow men by the governor of Arizona, in which the chief executive said:

"I look upon such action with grave apprehension. A very serious responsibility is assumed when such procedure is resorted to."

Columbus, N. M., Aug. 4.—It has now been discovered that the 1,186 workers deported from Bisbee, Arizona, are to be drafted into the army, who silently "do their bit." These workers were deported by copper magnates, working behind a group of lawand-orderites, who cloaked their anti-unionism under the "patriotism" cry. The workers have been interned at this place and a census shows that 43 of the men are married and that they have children. Two hundred and fifty-six declared they own property in Bisbee. Six have enlisted in the cavalry lean, and 515 have subscribed to the Red Cross. Sixty-two say they have seen service with the regular army almost an equal number have been in the navy. Four hundred and eighty-six registered for the draft. Of the foreign element interned, Mexicans predominate, with a scattering of Finns and Servians.

PAPER MAKERS ARE ACTIVE.

Munising, Mich., Aug. 4.—Organized paper workers have secured a general shop agreement and substantial wage increases from the Munising Paper company.

Great Bend, N. Y., Aug. 4.—The Taggerts Paper company has raised wages of its paper workers 2 cents an hour. This would amount to a 8 cent 5-cent an hour increase.

Fitzdale, Vt., Aug. 4.—The Fitzdale Paper company has signed a union shop agreement with the International Union of Paper Makers. Wages are increased and the eight-hour day will replace the 10-hour system.

Manistique, Wis., Aug. 4.—Employes of the M. & M. Paper Mill company have accepted a wage increase of 25 cents a day. It would seem that the workers asked for this raise but the company refused to even receive the committee. The union then decided to demand an increase of 4 cents an hour and the union shop. This alarmed the management and a notice was posted that a raise of 25 cents a day would be granted.

NEGRO EDUCATION URGED.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Adequate college and university education for colored people is urged by Dr. Thomas Jesse Jones in the United States bureau of education. "If a college education is of value to the negro," he says, "surely it is to those who are to be the leaders of the colored people. Only a few negroes are needed with a thorough grasp of human development, can understand the particular difficulties which arise from the close proximity of such widely varying races as the black and white people of the southern states."

Dr. Jones points out that despite high ideals and public opinion, based on the part of the race and its beneficiaries, most of the colored institutions offering collegiate courses are poorly supplied and ineffectively organized and administered. Only a few institutions at present have the student body, equipment, and teaching force for collegiate work. The negro has the right to choose his home, while others urged that this migration was stimulated by the activities of labor agents and strikebreaking and employment agencies.

No trade unionist was present and the conference was not told of the economic side of the migration and that the race prejudice which some employers encourage to beat down living rates.

PIECE WORK PAYS LESS.

Chicago, Aug. 4.—Reports by local unions of the Chicago district of the Journeymen Tailors' union shows that the average wage of piece workers in the clothing industry is about 15 cents, the average wage for weekly workers is $15.

Commenting on these averages, Edgar Sweeney of the Tailor says:

"It will be a sad day when weekly men receive much more pay for every hour they work than do the piece workers. If the weekly men receive as many hours each day as the piece workers, it is easy to see how much more money they would take home at the end of the week."

FIGHT INFANTILE PLAGUE.

Fargo, N. D., Aug. 4.—Because of the great prevalence last year of infantile paralysis, notice has been issued by the state board of health that every householder take special precautions toward screening against flies, and remove all garbage.

WANT 44-HOUR WEEK.

New Westminster, British Columbia, Aug. 4.—Machinists' local union No. 182, 300 per cent organization, has presented a 44-hour week demand to the contract shops in the city.

Annapolis, Md., Aug. 4.—Governor Harrington has called a special compulsory work act, passed at the resent session of the Maryland legislature.

This law is declared to be an emergency law and necessary for the improvement and preservation of the public safety." It provides for the registration of all male persons in the state between the ages of 18 and 50 years who are not otherwise registered, who have not registered and who have no continuous employment. These shall be ordered to work for not more than $50 and assigned to work by the governor.

Any person who disagrees with this Prussian idea and refuses to work under conditions arbitrarily imposed by the governor or his subordinates is liable to a $500 fine or 6 months' imprisonment, or both.

If an employer wishes to take advantage of this forced labor legislation he must execute a bond with his name on it, promising that he will pay wages regularly. Wage rates shall not be less than those "paid to others engaged in the same nature of work to which each such person is assigned." This makes the state sole judge of whether union rates or the varying non-union rates in the community shall be the standard.

The provisions of the act do not apply "to persons temporarily unemployed by reason of differences with their employers." This means that strikers are not placed in the unemployed list, but the governor is not prohibited from placing any other employed, und:r failure of fine and imprisonment, at this place on strikers "for the protection and welfare of the state."

The law does not apply to any seasonal trade or occupation carried on in Baltimore city or Allegany county. These two counties are the best organized in the state.

A FREE PRESS DEFENDED.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 4.—"Freedom of the press does not mean license," says the Globe-Democrat in a leading editorial, "Publishers are and ought to be held responsible for what they publish.

"But they are entitled to trial before a jury, and at the place not inconsistent with the genius of American institutions and not to any nonentity official the right to determine what shall be permitted to be published. That would be the most autocracy of the worst type. It could be used to suppress newspapers that the party in power might dislike. That the people have a right to know. It is idle to argue that it would not be so used.

"The only safety against tyranny lies in denying it the power. Some of the publications that have been barred from the mails were lawful publications. The president has exercised an act, it is true, but they did not advise anybody to disobey it. They have gone to the petition of congress to repeal it. The right of petition is safeguarded by the constitution."

FOOD PRICES ADVANCE.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Food costs compiled by the federal bureau of labor statistics show that the wholesale cost of the principal articles of food as a whole increased 5 per cent between April 15 and May 15, this year. Flour made the greatest advance—29 per cent; potatoes, 24 per cent; beef, 12 per cent; beans, 14 per cent; bread, 13 per cent, and rice, which has heretofore remained practically the same in price, jumped 11 per cent.

A comparison of prices on May 15, 1917, with those of May 15, 1916, shows an advance of 39 per cent in the year on all articles combined. The advance and flour made the greatest increases, 149 per cent and 122 per cent, respectively.

In the four-year period from May 15, 1913, to May 15, 1917, prices as a whole advanced 63 per cent. Potatoes increased 265 per cent, or to nearly four times the price of 1913. Beef, four increased 184 per cent, or to about two and two-thirds times the May, 1913, price. Bacon advanced 97 per cent and corn meal 82 per cent.

PACKERS' STRIKE ENDS.

Denver, Aug. 4.—An agreement has been reached between meat packers and their employees and the latter have returned to work with improved conditions assured. The packers and the workers' committee. Several hundred building craftsmen, who refused to work with the men out of strike guards, have also returned.

When the Armour employes resumed work their employment Manager Gebhard said:

"This is no time for any of us to be fighting among ourselves. We have an awful big enemy across the ocean to battle."

If the principal was enforced before employes were discharged because of organization, there would have been no strike.

IDLE MEN IN DES MOINES.

Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 4.—Grafting labor employment agencies in the middle western cities base flooded the labor market because of the ,exercise of a short-sighted policy. The Des Moines News says there are 5,000 more penniless men in this city than the local charities can take care of. The trades and labor unions have given notice that members are paying from 2 1-2 to 5 cents an hour below living rates and long before there was any thought of a cantonment in this city. The Commercial Secretary has appealed to Labor Wison to investigate the situation and have issued an appeal to the officers of national and international unions to assist in checking commercial greed.

ORDERED TO MOVE CARS.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Although railroads are pleading for higher freight rates the interstate commerce commission, the railroads war board, a sub-committee of the council of national defense ordered 36 railroads to immediately move 68,814 empty freight cars to the lines of 13 other railroads.

VIOLATE WOMEN'S LAW.

Wichita, Kan., Aug. 4.—Restaurant employers are ignoring the women's nine-hour law and force female employes to work from 6 to 85 hours a week in violation of the law, it is said in K. The women have concluded to help themselves and are now organizing.

DON'T SACRIFICE WOMANHOOD

BY PRESIDENT COMPERS IN AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST.

When we consider that at least three civilian workers are necessary to maintain one soldier in the field that it will be necessary for the shops and the fields of this country to supply many of the essentials of our allies in the war, that the undertaking upon which we have just entered is one of gigantic proportions and that there will not soon be finished that the first draft for soldiers will remove men who are now employed in industries most of which must be maintained, and that in all probability many other drafts will be made, it becomes apparent that there must be definite plans formulated to maintain a continuous supply of workers.

Several ill-considered plans and methods have already been proposed and some adopted. Most of these have been based on a proposal to secure additional workers without effort to readjust workers under new economies. In order to deal with the problem nationally we must determine which are the essential industries, then we can know where and women workers employed without injury to the women and therefore to the life of the nation. Some protests have been made to the employment of women workers, upon the ground that women should remain in the home and not "desert the sex sphere of women." Others, without even the pretense of scruples, are hastening the employment of women for which they are not fitted and are advocating the importation of foreign workers or any other humans that can be exploited so that human flesh and blood can be coined into profit.

Undoubtedly we must work out a national policy to deal with the matter of substitutions after drafts begin. There are numbers of women willing to do their part in the supreme utmost for the nation. There is no need to force them into industry now, plans should be ready when men are withdrawn for military service. There are a number of trades which will necessarily have less and less work to do as the war progresses. Among these may perhaps be counted the building trades.

From many localities already reports come to the effect that all the building trades are not employed. For instance, in Chicago in more than 100 trades a number of building industry men are unemployed. There should be devised a comprehensive plan for dealing with the general problem of employment scientifically and humanely.

Such a plan should begin with an industrial survey, thus securing accurate information of opportunities for employment and of the labor power of the country. Then the necessary machinery to connect workers with opportunities for employment should be established and employers and employers intelligently advised in furthering the best interests of humanity as well as production.

Under such conditions, women would be called to the development in work instead or exploitation.

Instead of working out our problems upon a rational basis, we find that this has occurred: A skillfully concealed campaign is being carried on to establish the idea that a scarcity of workers exists, followed by clamorous demands for freely importing Mexicans and coolie workers and for rushing women into all kinds of employment. Cleveland believes 75 and 100 women are running Bradley Hammers in one shop. Women are wiping engines in the running house at Akron, Ohio; many are running engines in the railroad yards and many other laborious work around large manufacturing plants. One woman has been employed by the Baltimore and Ohio railroad as a shop hand; she packs journal boxes, which are on the axles of wheels and must be filled with waste and oil. Flag women have appeared on railroads. Women are employed in the foundry trade, in machine shops and in many trades. One lumber yard in Chicago is reported to have 25 women to handle lumber. Truly there can be no justification for employing women with so little discrimination. We can not disguise the fact that during the progress of the war women may be employed in constantly increasing numbers, but surely our nation has enough intelligence to see that women are not employed in handling Bradley hammers and doing the roughest sort of manual labor by the men who by physically unfit and that when they do equal work with men they receive equal pay.

An intelligent way to start on this problem would be to have physicians and scientists formulate fundamental principles for guidance and then adopt a national employment policy based upon these principles. We can not afford to wage a war for humanity and impair the health of the people. Likewise the fundamental principles of human welfare in dealing with the women of our nation.

LABOR DISCREDITS ANOTHER WILD YARN

Washington, Aug. 4. — The Associated Press wild yarn that Philadelphia boiler makers will strike if not exempted from military service has been completely discredited as the result of correspondence between President Gompers and A. J. Franklin, president of the International Union of Boiler Makers and Iron Shipbuilders.

President Gompers forwarded this telegram to President Franklin:

"Much feeling has been aroused by a published telegram from Philadelphia to a Washington morning paper to the effect that Mr. Charles F. Scott, organizer of your brotherhood, has declared that unless all boiler makers, shipbuilders and helpers are exempt from draft he will call out on strike every one of the 4,300 mechanics at present engaged in fabricating steel for all the ways along the Delaware river. I cannot bring myself to believe that Mr. Scott made any such declaration, but in justice to him, your brotherhood and the good name of labor, particularly in this critical time, I deem it my duty to bring it to your attention."

President Franklin replied as follows:

"Mr. Scott writes absolutely not one word of truth in statement surrendered to him in your telegram. The statement stating that he is making complete denial in today's papers."

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 4.—The Associated Press sensational dispatch to the effect that boiler makers certain in Philadelphia ship yards is denied by the international president in a telegram to President Franklin of the International Union of Boiler Makers.

In the local union weekly bulletin, President Franklin makes this timely suggestion, which should be remembered when sensational stories are spread:

"In my opinion Brother Scott has made too much progress in advancing the condition of the shipbuilder and helper that they would declare that the members of our trade on the Delaware river to suit some of the powers of big business so well. Don't question the attempt of having taken this means to discredit him and his work."

OPPOSE "SISTER SUSIES."

Lansing, Mich., Aug. 4.—A bulletin issued by the Michigan Equal Suffrage association contains this reference to what is termed "the Sister Susie Menace:"

"The woman dubbed 'Sister Susie' in this fall or in May of 1918, moves by the peculiarly infantile form of patriotism which prompts her to volunteer her services for anything but self-supporting and family-supporting woman and man.

"Sister Susie is a serious menace at this moment in our own country. Where she knows how to spend money enough to pay all if both work and money were properly distributed.

"Playing low-paid or volunteer women workers in the labor market is the game the Michigan Equal Suffrage association contains this reference to what is termed "the Sister Susie Menace:"

"The woman who would take advantage of a war crisis to exploit the labor of women already underpaid is not only unpatriotic, but a traitor."

MOONEY TO HAVE NEW TRIAL.

San Francisco, Aug. 4.—Attorney General Webb has consented to grant Thomas J. Mooney a new trial, and has notified the state supreme court to that effect, it was said. It pass upon Mooney's appeal at the fall term.

The attorney general has been deluged with petitions to take action in this case because of perjury methods employed by District Attorney Fickert.

The attorney general's action is based on this testimony of Fickert at the trial, which resulted in Mooney's conviction, Frank Oxman, the state's principal witness, in open trial court, perjured himself, and that all probability many other drafts will be made. It becomes apparent that there must be definite plans formulated to maintain a continuous supply of workers. Several ill-considered plans and methods have already been proposed and some adopted. Most of these have been based on a proposal to secure additional workers without effort to readjust workers under new economies. In order to deal with the problem nationally we must determine which are the essential industries, then we can know where and women workers employed without injury to the women and therefore to the life of the nation. Some

FAMILIES SWAMPED BY HIGH LIVING COST

Washington, Aug. 4.—The federal bureau of labor statistics publishes a summary of the findings of the recent investigation conducted at the request of the mayor to obtain data on the cost of living to be used by city officials as a basis for wage advances to city employes.

Fifty families were investigated and it was found that 14 families showed a deficit averaging $20.25 a month and 15 families showed a surplus averaging $8.86 a month. The average annual deficit reported by the 50 families was $243.00. These facts prompted the commission to conclude:

"That with rapidly increasing food and clothing costs, the families are accumulating debts.

"That wage and chattel loans are made on excessive rates.

"That relatives are giving aid in money and supplies which is not divulged."

The heads of these families were employed as follows: Twenty-nine were city employes and 21 were factory employes. Wages were as follows: Fifteen received $60 and under $60 a month; 11, $60 to $70; four, $70 to $80; 10, $80 and over. Five gave no data.

The commission reported that $747 a year is necessary for the "bare existence" of a family of five. The amount necessary for a "safe, normal living" is placed at $1,001.72. The closest family fell $100 under the latter estimated is shown under the heading of "Expenditures for recreation, etc., which places $57.46, a little more than $1 a week, as sufficient for a family's recreation, church, charity, education, church, charity, fraternal and other organizations.

ORGANIZING MEAT PLANTS.

Chicago, Aug. 4. — Representatives of trade unions, having jurisdiction over crafts employed in the Chicago packing industry, have practically perfected an organization to unionize the 60,000 men, women and children employed in the industry. Heretofore the meat barons have blocked several previous attempts to unionize, by the familiar method of being first to force a wage reduction and then by a more enthusiasm in this work than ever before. It is stated that large numbers of negro laborers are being held by the packers under what is practically a system of peonage, which makes it possible to maintain a large force of extra laborers who expect to work only a few days in the week. Recently the packers received much publicity because of the broadside they issued against their plants, but unionists say the packers are merely succeeding in keeping organized labor representatives away from these concerns than they are from their product from enemies of the government.

"UPLIFTING" WOMEN.

Chicago, Aug. 4.—The campaign to "uplift" women goes steadily on, as is shown by the announcement by the public press by W. B. Morris, vice president of the Morris meat packing plant:

"We have prepared the way to use women to the best advantage in which they are able to work. Women will be employed by the butchery department to do skinning and washing carcasses."

Nothing in the "uplifting" of boys overlooked by this official, who says: "We will put boys through an intensive training in butchering."

COAL MEN WARNED.

Philadelphia, Aug. 4.—Choose between abnormal prices and inflated profits or submit to regulation of prices and profits, is the ultimatum Ilin Fort, member of the federal trade commission, before the annual convention of the Pennsylvania Retail Coal Merchants' association.

The chief point at issue, said Commissioner Fort, is the consumer's fair price for coal. Conditions have changed materially, Fort declared, he said, and the people are now doing their own thinking. Even novels are dealing with modern economic problems.

NOT UNDER LABOR LAW.

Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 4.—The state compensation law, which applies to maritime accidents do not come under the state compensation system because of the federal law, a supreme court has decided that exclusive jurisdiction in such cases is vested in federal courts.

HARRISON GRAY OTIS DEAD.

Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 4.—Harrison Gray Otis, owner of the Los Angeles Times, died suddenly in this city. In his later years he acquired some notoriety because of a bitter opposition to organized labor.

ADOPT SANE METHODS.

Cleveland, Aug. 4.—Organized sheet metal workers and their employers have perfected a joint committee to handle grievances and disputes under the new agreement between these parties.

WOMEN IN R. R. SHOPS.

Dubuque, Iowa, Aug. 4.—It is reported that the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad has received so many applications from women for shop machine shops that it can not supply them with work.

AMERICAN FLAT LIFE AIDS RACE SUICIDE

Milwaukee, Aug. 4.—A sweeping indictment against flats and tenements appears in a report to the national association of real estate boards. The real birth rate is very low in flats, it is stated. One building of 36 apartments recently investigated in Milwaukee shows only one baby.

"The tenement or flat is not the place in which to bring up children," continues the report. "The detached house with a bit of tidal and adjoining ground, where the children may play, is the ideal, a real home. This ideal means that we must try to develop suburban property.

"Building laws and building codes are essentially different but are often confused. Building codes concern themselves with the construction of buildings and prescribe the kind, quality and thickness of materials to be used in their erection. Housing laws are designed to protect the health of those who live in dwellings and hence deal primarily with sanitary questions; such as the lighting and ventilation of rooms, proper plumbing, disposal of sewage, egress in case of fire and protection of the occupants from the dangers and ashes, etc. Housing laws also, for instance, try to better the moral conditions of the community by prohibiting the renting of flats to boys ranged so as to afford proper privacy and by regulating the taking of lodgers."

MAINTAIN OUR UNIONS.

Cincinnati, Aug. 4.—"While we are fighting as a nation for the establishment of the principle that the united nations of the earth, we must not forget that, specifically, our trade unions are fighting for democracy in industry," writes Editor Frey in the International Molders' Journal.

"The trade union holds that no employer has any more right to dictate to his employes what hours they must work and the terms of employment, than the autocrat has to determine the laws under which his subjects must live and labor. In a democracy, all of the people are given a right to participate in the government and in industry the same principle should apply—all of the workers should have a right to participate in the determination of the shop laws and rules which are to govern them, and the terms of their employment.

"As wage earners we cannot forever remain political sovereigns and industrial subjects."

CONVICTS ON HIGHWAYS.

Springfield, Mo., Aug. 4.—Highways will be built with convict labor in the future, says E. L. Sanford, chairman of the Missouri state highway commission.

Under the tentative plan, state prisoners will be worked on the road the commission and the prison board, each bearing its share of the expense. While the prisoners are working on the road the expense will be borne by the highway commission.

The convicts will also be available to counties for work on the roads. The will be put in camps in the district where the work is to be done, the camps to accommodate 50, 100 and as many as 200 men.

STATE ASSISTS JOBLESS.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Aug. 4.—The state free employment office is now in operation at Ogden to arrange conditions under which Utah workers are employed. Arrangements are established cards to supply information to prospective employes. Private employment offices are barred. The state will care the information and in their degree to collect fees make the job as attractive as possible. This results in much dissatisfaction and a constant shifting of labor.

ORGANIZED 36 UNIONS.

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 4.—Officers of the International Hod Carriers and Common Laborers' union report that 36 locals have been organized during the past quarter.

The referendum vote on the question of erecting an office building at a local cost of $50,000 has been favored board was: For, 8,403; against, 1,504.

WANT 20 PER CENT RAISE.

East Liverpool, Ohio, Aug. 4.—Steam Engineers' local No. 128 has presented a 20 per cent wage demand to the United States Sanitary Manufacturing company in their strike for higher wages. Former rates were 25 cents an hour for men and $7.50 a day for engineers. The strikers accepted an increase of 2 1-2 cents an hour.

METAL WORKERS STRIKE.

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, Aug. 4.—Refusal of the Vancouver Engineering and Shipbuilding Co. metal trades agreement accepted by other concerns, has resulted in a strike of blacksmiths, boiler makers, machinists and pattern makers.

PLUMBERS ORGANIZING.

Philadelphia, Aug. 4.—Plumbers are conducting an effective organizing campaign in this city.

"LOYALTY ALL 'ROUND" IS URGED BY UNIONIST

Chicago, Aug. 4.—Trade unionists will give without stint to the government in this crisis, says President Frank Morrison of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, but they do not propose to be robbed of their economic rights by profiteers and speculators.

"No one can tell what the final outcome of the war will be, but surely every war of the past has had an altogether different ending from the conditions contemplated when the war began. Democracy was not the paramount issue when the present world war was precipitated, nor is the only sane means of a proper, just and lasting peace, has developed and has been made a part of the purpose of the world-war since it started.

"Trade unionists, especially trade unionists, while loyal to our country and determined to discharge their full obligations to the government and for our common country, will, nevertheless, strive with might and main to maintain the standards of living and standards of work in civil life. While fighting the enemy from without we propose to fight the enemy within. While giving without stint or reservation to the government and our country in this crisis, we don't propose to be robbed by profiteers and speculators, nor by a minority of reactionaries, of our economic and social rights. To maintain our economic standards and well being is just as important to the nation maintaining the standards of well being of the men and women in the ranks of labor, as the sacrifices, hardships and privations of soldiers, sailors and marines. With the exception of "soldiers and carpetsmiths' helpers, who are to receive $4 a day, carpenters' wages are now $5. After the war is over the company agrees to raise to the nine-hour day with the weekly payment.

BIG PROFITS IN SHIPS.

New York, Aug. 4.—Enormous profits to the shipping industry as a result of the war, is indicated in the annual report of the International Mercantile company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1916. Profits are 95 per cent tax on excess profits levied by the British government, which amounted to $23,510,217, the company had a profit of $25,946,650 for the year and now has a surplus of $36,506,176.

The announcement of these huge profits followed the recent public statement by President Wilson that certain ship owners in this country have doing everything that their freight charges can do to make the war a failure, to make it impossible," and that "these men must be made to feel that their profits are the most effective means in their power to defeat the armies engaged against Germany."

WILL REOPEN WAGE SCALES.

Washington, Aug. 4.—The A. F. of L. metal trades department has succeeded in inducing the navy yards and arsenals, because of the high cost of living.

President O'Connell and Secretary-Treasurer Duffy of the metal trades have insisted that government rates have dropped below prevailing standards. The president's request was made to investigate this claim and will appear before the board for that purpose. On receipt of these boards' reports the war and navy departments and the department of labor will appoint representatives to make an award.

WHY LABOR IS SCARCE.

Philadelphia, Aug. 4.—E. E. Greenawalt, commissioner of immigration for this port, has this to say of the alleged labor shortage:

"While it would appear on the surface that there is no shortage of labor in this district there are many instances of employers who complain of an inadequate labor supply and who are unable to secure labor because they fail to offer a new scale of wages commensurate with the needs of workers due to the increased cost of living."

STREET CAR MEN GAIN.

East St. Louis, Ill., Aug. 4.—An arbitration board has awarded 35 cents an hour on interurban lines and 31 cents an hour on city lines. Former rates were 27 and 28 cents. The men prepared to strike when the increases were refused and the street railway company consented to arbitrate. The award dates back from May 1.

ELECTRICIANS WIN.

Pittston, Pa., Aug. 4.—Electrical Workers' union No. 163 has won a substantial increase in the hourly wages; former rates were $3.50 a day. Under the new agreement wages are increased $4 a day from May 1, 1917, to May 30, 1917, and $5 a day from that date until April 30, 1918.

BIG YEAR FOR BURLINGTON.

Chicago, Aug. 4.—Stockholders of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad are in receipt of the financial report of this corporation shows a clear profit last year of $21,139,469, an increase of $3,268,695 over the previous year.

MEAT CUTTERS GAIN.

Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 4.—Butcher workmen's local No. 174 has secured a wage increase of $2 a week for all employes. Meat cutters' local No. 174 has secured a wage increase of $2 a week for all employes. Meat cutters' local No. 174 has secured a wage increase of $2 a week for all employes.

RAILROAD SHOP MEN MAKE NOTABLE GAIN

Washington, Aug. 4.—Secretary of Labor Wilson has ended a five-months' controversy between southeastern railroads and the A. F. of L. railway employes' department by his decision that the eight-hour day shall be installed, wages increased 5½ cents an hour for mechanics, 6½ cents for helpers, 2½ cents for apprentices, time and one-half after standard eight-hour day and Sunday and holiday pay, including all men in car departments.

The wage increases date back from March 1 of this year and will approximate $2,000,000 to be paid 27,000 organized workers who made the first demand. Employes among the following crafts: Machinists, boiler makers, electricians, blacksmiths, sheet metal workers, car men and apprentices and helpers.

The movement was handled by a committee representing these crafts, of which A. O. Wharton, president of the A. F. of L. railroad employes' department, was chairman. The chairman of the general managers' committee was Mr. Lovett of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad.

The men asked for a 10 cent increase for all mechanics and helpers and 5 cents for apprentices. The managers offered a 5 cent increase for mechanics and 4 cents for helpers.

Since then negotiations have continued. The workers insisted that if the machinery provided for by the government be taken advantage of it must be left the question by conciliation and mediation, rather than indulge in longdrawn out arbitration proceedings. After a strike vote was taken the railroad managers agreed to leave the matter to Secretary of Labor Wilson, whose award has just been announced. Minor differences will be passed upon later.

The railroads involved include 12 large trunk lines and subsidiary properties. While the workers have not estimated the yearly total wage increase, railroad officials say that it will approximate between $8,000,000 and $9,000,000.

SHOP MEN RAISE WAGES.

Chicago, Aug. 4.—The Chicago and Alton railroad has reached an agreement with its federated shop men which provides for wage demands for 65 days. The eight-hour day will be established on March 1 next and the wage increase range from 2 1-2 cents an hour down. A feature of this settlement is the absence of a strike vote which shop men in other lines have been forced to take. The agreement provides that back pay shall start from June 1.

The value of this settlement is shown in the statement of the boiler makers' representative that these workers are increased $300.00 for a year of 300 working days, and that the machinists will receive a yearly increase of $180.

Houston, Tex., Aug. 4.—Shop men employed by the international and Great Northern railroad have raised wages 7½ cents an hour for mechanics, helpers are advanced 6 cents with the exception of "blacksmiths and carpetsmiths' helpers, who are to receive $4 a day. Apprentices are increased 3 1-2. After the war is over the company agrees to raise to the nine-hour day with the weekly payment.

BIG PROFITS IN SHIPS.

New York, Aug. 4.—Enormous profits to the shipping industry as a result of the war, is indicated in the annual report of the International Mercantile company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1916. Profits are 95 per cent tax on excess profits levied by the British government, which amounted to $23,510,217, the company had a profit of $25,946,650 for the year and now has a surplus of $36,506,176.

The announcement of these huge profits followed the recent public statement by President Wilson that certain ship owners in this country have done everything that their freight charges can do to make the war a failure, to make it impossible," and that "these men must be made to feel that their profits are the most effective means in their power to defeat the armies engaged against Germany."

WILL REOPEN WAGE SCALES.

Washington, Aug. 4.—The A. F. of L. metal trades department has succeeded in inducing the navy yards and arsenals to reopen wage scales in many grade and wages, because of the high cost of living.

President O'Connell and Secretary-Treasurer Duffy of the metal trades have insisted that government rates have dropped below prevailing standards. The president's request was made to investigate this claim and will appear before the board for that purpose. On receipt of these boards' reports the war and navy departments and the department of labor will appoint representatives to make an award.

WHY LABOR IS SCARCE.

Philadelphia, Aug. 4.—E. E. Greenawalt, commissioner of immigration for this port, has this to say of the alleged labor shortage:

"While it would appear on the surface that there is no shortage of labor in this district there are many instances of employers who complain of an inadequate labor supply and who are unable to secure labor because they fail to offer a new scale of wages commensurate with the needs of workers due to the increased cost of living."

STREET CAR MEN GAIN.

East St. Louis, Ill., Aug. 4.—An arbitration board has awarded 35 cents an hour on interurban lines and 31 cents an hour on city lines. Former rates were 27 and 28 cents. The men prepared to strike when the increases were refused and the street railway company consented to arbitrate. The award dates back from May 1.

ELECTRICIANS WIN.

Pittston, Pa., Aug. 4.—Electrical Workers' union No. 163 has won a substantial increase in the hourly wages; former rates were $3.50 a day. Under the new agreement wages are increased $4 a day from May 1, 1917, to May 30, 1917, and $5 a day from that date until April 30, 1918.

BIG YEAR FOR BURLINGTON.

Chicago, Aug. 4.—Stockholders of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad are in receipt of the financial report of this corporation shows a clear profit last year of $21,139,469, an increase of $3,268,695 over the previous year.

MEAT CUTTERS GAIN.

Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 4.—Butcher workmen's local No. 174 has secured a wage increase of $2 a week for all employes. Meat cutters' local No. 174 has secured a wage increase of $2 a week for all employes. Meat cutters' local No. 174 has secured a wage increase of $2 a week for all employes.

TO SERVE DEMOCRACY PLANS LIBERAL GROUP

New York, Aug. 4.—At a conference of trade unionists and others, headed by President Compers, plans were formulated to combat Prussian influence among American workers and assist the government in bringing the struggle against autocracy to a quick and successful close and to protect and serve democracy at home. A nation-wide educational campaign will be launched with these ends in view.

Addresses were made by President Compers and Secretary Morrison of the A. F. of L., John Sparge, Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes and others. A committee was appointed to carry out the purpose of the conference. The following resolution was also adopted:

"We recommend to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor that immediate steps be taken to secure the co-operation of other progressive groups, organizations and individuals in an effort to serve labor and democracy, to mobilize the intellectual moral forces of the American labor movement in the aid of the working class of America may be mainly responsible for the government in its struggles to overthrow autocracy and in an earnest and consistent endeavor to protect and safeguard the cause of democracy here at home. We recommend the program to this end adopted by the conference of the A. F. of L. at Washington, March 12, 13, 14."

President Gompers was elected chairman and Secretary Morrison of the conference, with instructions to make effective the above sentiments.

LEATHER WORKERS UNITE.

Washington, Aug. 4.—The A. F. of L. has issued a charter to the United Leather Workers' International union, which is an amalgamation of all tanners and leather workers in the A. F. of L. and the International United Brotherhood of Leather Workers' International union and the Tanners' Goods and Novelty Leather Workers.

The new charter gives it full jurisdiction over the leather industry except where jurisdiction has been awarded, as in the case of hide and shoe workers and glove workers.

The following officers have been elected for a term of three years: John D. Bryan, general president; E. Shilling, general vice president; John J. Pfeiffer, general secretary-treasurer, and these five executive board members: F. P. Maloney, New York; John Doran, Boston; W. F. Ackerman, Buffalo; Fred Wm. Wenzelwig, Denver; and J. W. Trapp, Los Angeles.

President Bryan reports that an up-to-date constitution has been adopted and it is the intention to establish headquarters in the Postal building, Kansas City, Mo., former headquarters of the International Union. The union will receive a yearly increase of $150.

FAVOR INJUNCTION WRIT.

Boston, Aug. 4.—A committee of the state constitutional convention has submitted to the convention a report on the resolutions dealing with the use of the injunction in labor controversies. Five members of the committee favor the report, a minority report and it is believed the reports will be the subject of much discussion on the floor of the convention. One of the resolutions, filed by Jay Gerry Brown of Brockton, declares that the right of labor to strike being to labor and to the enjoyment and right of the community, is fundamental being and that labor is not a commodity or article of commerce. A similar measure was passed into law passed by the Massachusetts senate and house a few years ago but was later declared unconstitutional by the state supreme court.

BOOKBINDERS GAIN.

Indianapolis, Aug. 4.—Officers of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders report that 314 men and 377 women have contributed to membership during the month ending June 30. Of these new members 27 men and 136 women of Canadian locals.

Philadelphia, Aug. 4.—The John C. Winston company has announced that it abandon its docking system as the result of a strike by the bookbinders and folders. Girls who have received less than $8 a week will be raised to that figure. Seventy-five per cent of employes are late for work they will be docked only for the actual time lost.

MILL MEN ENJOINED.

Hoquiam, Wash., Aug.—Judge Ben Sheeks has issued a temporary injunction restraining striking timber workers from picketing the plant of the Grays Harbor Lumber company. The strikers are demanding an eight hour day in the lumber branch and nine hours in the logging branch; sanitary conditions in all mills, abolishment of the bunk house and trading coupons, no tampering with the men's check mail, the right to board where they please and other working betterments.

MINERS WORK HALF TIME.

Martins Ferry, Ohio, Aug. 4.—Miners in southeastern Ohio are working half time and operators blame the railroads for the prevailing situation. Miners state that coal cars are supplied in such a manner that they are forced to work but one day for a few hours each day, with the result that their time is divided with other work. They have appealed to Gov. Cox for relief, as part of an extensive campaign against this condition.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Philadelphia, Aug. 4.—Typographical union No. 2 has secured a wage increase from 2 to 3 cents per hour for members employed on the Public Ledger, Evening Ledger and the North American. This means an annual gain of $50,000 to these workers.

CAR MEN STRIKE.

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 4.—Street car men employed by the Springfield Railway and Electric company are on strike to secure recognition of their union and the adjustment of wage increases. The company says as low as 21 cents an hour.

CARPENTERS GAIN.

Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 4.—The Carpenters' union is enforcing its new wage scale which raises rates from 50 cents to 55 cents an hour. Out of a total membership of 850, less than 75 have refused because of this movement.

RAILROAD CLERKS UNITE.

Rock Island, Ill., Aug. 4.—Railroad clerks in this city have organized a local union of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. The organization is for the purpose of securing an increase in wages.